

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: KT3A@aol.com
Subject: [4495] "Radio Man"?
Message-ID: <951019222320_128277000@mail06.mail.aol.com>

My son's school is hosting a visit from an author named Arthur Dorros.
He has written several books including one called, "Radio Man".
Can anyone tell me anything about the book? They will be selling this one
along with the others.

ObQRP: Got the QRP Dummy Load/Wattmeter from Kanga. Good buy. The meter
is worth the price alone. Full scale is 50 microamps. I hope to build it
with several
scales. 1watt, 2.5 watts and 5 watts.

72 de cameron, kt3a

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: "John F. Jarvis" <jfj@pacer1.usca.sc.edu>
Subject: [4489] /QRP in South Carolina
Message-ID: <199510200115.VAA20515@pacer1.usca.sc.edu>

I will be operating Sat. 21 Oct 95 from the University of SC - Aiken (my
employer) as part of "Science Education Enrichment Day". Our exhibit
will be ham radio.

I will make a special effort to work /QRP starting on 20M then QSYing
to 40M. I intend to do do this at 11AM EDT (1500Z) and 1PM (1700Z). If you
need SC two-way QRP give a me a call. If we do connect and you want a QSL
no SASE is needed.

I will be signing /4
John Jarvis KE2WB

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: william.redfearn.cmwdrr01@nt.com
Subject: [4508] 28.322 MHz module group purchase update
Message-ID: <"6077 Fri Oct 20 06:24:30 1995"@nt.com>

Ok, its Friday!
So far I have gotten specific requests from:
AA1IK, W4RNL, WA4NID, KC5CUW, KF2ZF, KF2XC, and NG0N.

I will close this list out and get the oscillator modules ordered.
I hope to start mailing out modules around 30 Oct.

NOTE: I will be off the net 23 - 27 Oct due to business so don't
worry, "I'll be back".

73 - Dave.

=====

Dave Redfearn, Sr RF Systems Engineer NORTEL RTP, NC.
ph.(919) 992-3925 email: cmwdr01@nt.com qrl? de N4ELM/qrp

All opinions are my own, no one else wants them.

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [4510] 30M Propagation Study Revisited
Message-ID: <199510201222.MAA18222@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

In June 1 through August 31 of this year we did a little propagation
study on 30M, since we couldn't do a 'contest'. W03B, Bob White, and
I had a little race going on and he beat the crud outta me on DX, but
I think I did a little better on the US side. We had fun and I know
some people didn't appreciate the humor, but thanks for putting up
with our foolishness. We be big kids, or least this kid is. :-)

There are all kinds of PC based programs out there for logging, stats,
and all kinds of things that you can do to data. Well, I don't do PC.
I own one, but it sits idle. I have a UNIX (tm) workstation on the
desk. UNIX has about 1,000 or so little commands, and some big ones
too, and so I keep my log in ASCII format and I gave an example of
that at the start of the study. I have since come back and added one
more field - the distance to the other station when known. Then with
tbl, psroff/ditroff, grep, awk, and some C routines that I wrote
I can just about get anything that I need outta the data.

Jim Eshelman and others wrote up some progams, shell scripts, and
database comm progs that allow us to email to the server to get
mailing addresses and distances to the other station. So armed to the

teeth with this new tool, I went back and added distances to the 30M and 40M contacts, and I am not through, so the results here are just partial. Complete stats in QRPP or QQ.

June 1 - August 31, 1995 30M results with 0.95W and long wire

This so called long wire is a 30M wire (note wrong length as it should be odd multiple of 1/4 wavelength for end-fed wire) up only 3M in among large (even for TX) Pecan trees. Rigs used (just to experiment) NN1G SWL-30, OHR Explorer, MXM Simple Transceiver. I found out later that the SWL-30 was at 0.5W, but since I told everyone I was at 0.95W left it alone. No big deal. I just didn't have the trim pot at near maximum value for power out and must have been doing some experiment at the time and forgot.

211 contacts

45 states worked

17 countries

40 states confirmed with QSL cards including HI

97 QSL cards received out of 174 sent. They are still trickling in at the mailbox.

72 contacts were 2xQRP, i.e. both I and the other station were QRP and a large number of NN1G and OHR rigs on the band too.

States not worked (hint, hint) AK, DE, NV, ND, and RI. Hope Lee hasn't ruined it for me in the great state of RI. :-)

VE5VA also needs ND and I hope he gets them during SS (he is not doing this on 30M). Anyone on this list from DE or ND? ;-)

I've got some missing data points but a partial histogram of the ranges of contacts yields:

distance =	0 - 100.0	number of contacts is	4	(all Dallas)
distance =	100 - 200.0	number of contacts is	0	
distance =	200 - 300.0	number of contacts is	4	
distance =	300 - 400.0	number of contacts is	1	
distance =	400 - 500.0	number of contacts is	7	
distance =	500 - 600.0	number of contacts is	9	
distance =	600 - 700.0	number of contacts is	13	
distance =	700 - 800.0	number of contacts is	18	
distance =	800 - 900.0	number of contacts is	23	
distance =	900 - 1000.0	number of contacts is	17	
distance =	1000 - 1100.0	number of contacts is	14	
distance =	1100 - 1200.0	number of contacts is	17	
distance =	1200 - 1300.0	number of contacts is	11	
distance =	1300 - 1400.0	number of contacts is	4	
distance =	1400 - 1500.0	number of contacts is	8	

distance = 1500 - 1600.0	number of contacts is	15
distance = 1600 - 1700.0	number of contacts is	2
distance = 1700 - 1800.0	number of contacts is	0
distance = 1800 - 1900.0	number of contacts is	0
distance = 1900 es	greater number of contacts is	20

Ooops. Distance is in miles. Since I am running 0.95W I have something like 100 contacts at or over 1,000 mi/W. Now you see why I like 0.95W. At 5W I would have had only 4 or 5 over the 1,000mi/W range. True, I might have made twice as many contacts, but on the air people are more interested in one watt and the results or seem to be.

The statistics don't prove anything. They are just numbers and random samplings of contacts made at times when I thought conditions were good or I could make contacts.

Average code speed I'd estimate at slightly above 20wpm, but there may have been some stations that heard me call CQ at 20wpm and didn't come back. Fastest contact was at 45wpm. Again, just numbers.

Overall impressions of 30M from someone who worked only 40M for 37years except for some QSO parties and 10M mobile during the "big spots".

1. 30M is a good QRP band
2. 30M has properties like 20M and 40M (expected)
3. 30M, lower 25KHz, is not all that crowded and the digital hams are better about staying with the band plan
4. A lot of people give up on 30M when the sun goes down. Big mistake. Very big mistake. Some of the best DX is just before the band closes and that was sometimes around 11 to midnight local time. But this is true of 40M and other bands also. When the band is in the process of closing hang around just a little bit longer to see if it just doesn't come back for some more good results. Patience is everything here.
5. These results are for the summer. I would expect 30M to become more like 40M during the daylight hours due to larger solar angle from the zenith and the band will close much earlier.
6. Seemed to be good conditions just before sunset and after until the band closes and at sunrise and the first hour or two thereafter. During the day (summer) absorption characteristics like 40M. Thus my #5 statement and I

think that 30M needs some more study during daylight hours during the winter. A problem for those of us that work except for weekends. Others can study and let us know and make us green with envy. :-)

OK, back to regular scheduled programming.

dit dit es tn timer to all

The whole activity was fun and I hope more people learned something from it. Activity is everything.

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: Brien Pepperdine <pepperb@gov.on.ca>
Subject: [4486] Again- FD win
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.90.951019185007.22861C-100000@govonca2>

A reading of the November QST rec'd yesterday by our Club 'president' (facilitator, animator) seems to tell him that Field Day in Canada was won, again for the second year in a row, by the Durham Region QRP Club.

I just wanted to say that, even if FD is not a contest, points wise the club was able to accumulate the leading total of all the Canadian group/club operations, running 4A.

I was going to hold off on this, but the keyboard got away from me and sent it off, unfinished and too soon, to the qrp-1, so I figured I would finish it off. When I have more details and numbers, I will know better how we did in total.

(I use the royal 'we', since though a club member and scheduled to participate on 40 m. with the club, sadly I had to work the entire weekend at the Job).

Brien
Toronto

pepperb@gov.on.ca

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: K5ERJ@aol.com
Subject: [4482] AMERICA ONLINE REVISION 107.1
Message-ID: <951019174859_48950031@mail02.mail.aol.com>

If you are not using America Online...you can delete this now with no problem.

FOR AMERICA ONLINE Version 2.5 USERS ON THE LISTS.....

This morning I ran into a very frustrating problem. When attempting to sign on, all I got was a screen that informed me I would have to sign on interactively and gave the 800 number. This is the same type screen you get when you first attempt to sign up with the service.

I won't bore you with the time I spent today with a phone glued to my ear listening to "Hold" music while their multitude of Techs were "helping other members". Suffice to say, at 4:30 CDT I found one that knew what was causing the problem.

It turns out I was using AOL Version 2.5 Revision 101.1. Apparently, this version contained a "bug" that caused the aforementioned problem. It could be that this was the original version downloaded online and I only thought I had installed 2.5 from the disk received in the mail.

Before anyone else experiences this frustrating problem, do the following:

1. Click on "Help" in the menu line at the top of the initial screen.
2. Click on "About America Online".
3. Hit Control "R" and read what revision of AOL 2.5 is listed there.
4. If it is anything other than revision 107.1, then you are using an outdated copy and one that might cause problems.

If your version is outdated, you have two options:

1. Call 1-800-827-6364 and ask them to send the latest software.
or.....
2. Using the keyword "Upgrade" you can download version 2.5 free.

If posting this to my two favorite lists saves just one of you unjust aggravation, then it has been worth my time. Since I receive about 60-70 messages a day from lists, and private mail, I shuddered to think what was waiting when I finally got this worked out.

Tnx es 73

Ed K5ERJ

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: LVE1@inel.gov (Larry East)
Subject: [4469] Chuck and UTC
Message-ID: <9510191506.AA07401@garnet.inel.gov>

Well, guess I owe a public apology to Chuck Adams for trying to burst his "bubble of perfection" by accusing him of putting the wrong date on a QSL card... I started a new log page when I made the contact with Chuck and, for some reason, incremented the date!

Like I said... anyone can screw up! (And I didn't even need a computer to do it.) :-)

Sorry, Buba!

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: "Bob White" <Bob_White@CCMAIL.AEROSYS.LORAL.COM>
Subject: [4521] CW Sweepstakes - Freqs
Message-ID: <9509208142.AA814208967@CCMAIL.AEROSYS.LORAL.COM>

Here are the SS CW freqs which Chuck K5FO alluded to:

Regular	Novice/Slow Speed CW
1800-1810	
3530-3600	3665-3705
7030-7080	7090-7130
14030-14060	
21050-21080	21090-21130
28050-28080	28090-28130

The ARRL CW sweepstakes is a good way to fill in WAS QRP holes and a great way to pick up you code speed. If you are new to the contest, listen up on the slow speed portions for awhile until you get the hang of the exchange then slide on down with the big boys. Like Chuck said, the big guns hear everything and want every point.

I like to start at one end of the band and just work my way up. Make sure you are using a narrow filter as the guy on the other end most

certainly is. Once you get to the end of the band, start all over again. If you find that every station appears to be a dupe then change bands. Start with the high bands first and milk them for all you can as they will produce most of the "hard to find" contacts for you. If there is a band opening you will hear someone. This contest produces more signals per square inch than any other for US/Canadian hams.

Most of all good luck and have fun!

72,
Bob White W03B (WASTP 50.38w)
bob_white@ccmail.aerosys.loral.com

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: Brien Pepperdine <pepperb@gov.on.ca>
Subject: [4485] FD won again (we think).
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.90.951019184721.22861B-100000@govonca2>

A reading of the November QST rec'd yesterday by our Club 'president' (facilitator, animator) seems to tell him that Field Day in Canada was won, again for the second year in a row, y

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: LVE1@inel.gov (Larry East)
Subject: [4478] IC-706
Message-ID: <9510191815.AA111108@garnet.inel.gov>

Does anyone happen to know the "suggest list price" of the new ICOM IC-706? No, I'm not intending to buy one, just wanta know...

Tnx & 72, Larry W1HUE
LVE1@inel.gov

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: "Ted Kell" <kell@mpac.jsc.nasa.gov>
Subject: [4473] Looking for volunteers
Message-ID: <199510191604.MAA64742@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

I am in the process of indexing QRPP. I have done III,3, Chuck volunteered to do one, I gave him III,2, I will do III,1. Is there anyone that would like to take on an issue? The format is on ftp.lehigh.edu. If so, let me know and I will coordinate who does what so we don't get 10 II,4's and nothing else.

72

Ted Kell (kell@mpac.jsc.nasa.gov)

(To clarify things, Some other person saying to me)

You live in Houston? Well, bless your soul!

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: af852@rgfn.epcc.Edu (William R Colbert)
Subject: [4477] Mini-Circuits
Message-ID: <9510191636.AA20095@rgfn.epcc.Edu>

Charles, W5ISZ, and others interested - just called the Branson office of Mini-Circuits and again most helpful. The current issue of the RF/IF Designer's handbook is the 92/93 issue, however, they do have updated inserts and other data sheets available for the asking at 417-335-5935. Sue, said that Mini-Circuits is working on a home page but not available yet. So for your copy of the Designers Handbook and latest info, give them a call. Ray, W5XE, El Paso

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: Charles Cashion <ccashion@spdmail.spd.dsccc.com>
Subject: [4492] Mini-Circuit Thank You
Message-ID: <199510200143.AA16168@aplo1.spd.dsccc.com>

Gang,
Maybe I should have just whispered my need (for MC SBL-1). The response was overwhelming/generous/informative and any other superlative that I can remember. You guys (and one gal) are great. Thanks! Charles ex-W5ISZ
ObQRP: My code speed is up to at least 12wpm. I will be back soon.

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: ddonald@vikings.onecomm.com (Dave Donaldson)
Subject: [4519] much thanks to all!!

I have wanted to say how much I have enjoyed this list. I could easily give up all other connection to the net except email as long as I have this list (I am not!!!). Everyone is great, even when we get off the subject :>). Thanks all!!!

Dave, WB7DRU

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: Edward=F=Burke%Eng%GPID@banyan.BV.TEK.COM
Subject: [4479] My Norcal "Cascade" is Working!
Message-ID: <9510192011.AA14197@tekgen.bv.tek.com>

My new Norcal "Cascade" is up and running, although I can say more about building it than operating it to date, since I do not have a 75 meter antenna (yet) and have been limited to the 20 meter band. Since 20 meters has been going downhill rapidly by the time I get home from work, my contacts have been limited to a few. But comments are good!

I plan to build a 75/80 meter antenna soon, but my wife insists that I wait for the sleet and snow season to put it up. She says that is real "antenna weather".

Anyway, here are some comments about the Cascade.

The Cascade borrows sucessfully from the Norcal Sierra in many areas. The mechanical packaging seems to be virtually identical (including the plug-in band modules). The RF (preselector) filter, the RF gain, and parts of the AGC circuit are the same, and the VFO is similar. The VFO operates at about 5 Mhz, and the IF is at 9 Mhz. Unlike the Sierra (and like the Norcal40) there is no IF amplifier stage, but the loss of gain is compensated by a powerful audio chain of a 5532 op amp feeding a LM383 audio power op amp. More on that below.

The architecture of the Cascade is a sort of plus and minus scheme. I think that the ARRL refers to that multi-band switching scheme as "band imaging". At its simplest, if you add 9 mhz (IF) to 5mhz (VFO) you get 14 Mhz (20 meters), and if you subtract them, you get just under 4 Mhz (75 meter band). Both sum and difference products are simultaneously available at the output of the NE602 transmit mixer, so all you need to do is plug in the correct transmit bandpass filter components, and that selects the one that you want.

The Cascade is intended to be used with a 2 meter type speaker mike, and there was some confusion regarding which speaker mike. The instructions say either

use a Radio Shack 19-310 unit, or a "Kenwood Standard". Since I have a current Kenwood speaker mike I thought that I would be in luck, but it did not fit and when I checked, I found that it was electrically incompatible too!

The manual must be referring to some older "Kenwood Standard" so your best bet may be to buy one of the Radio Shack units, since they are only \$19. Another possibility might be to try ICOM or Yaesu mikes since the Radio Shack documentation claims to be compatible with those manufacturer's products, but it is wise to be skeptical and cautious in matters of compatibility.

The quality of the main board is beautiful, and there are no errors. The only wires are two short lengths of miniature coax that connect the RF gain pot to the circuit. The main board is fairly dense, and every one of the 100 (or so) resistors is vertical with only two exceptions.

We used to call that "Japanese transistor radio style", and I remembered that we had an old transistor radio using that technique around the house. I also remembered something else about that radio; when the resistors were vertically installed by the manufacturer, the vertical leads were insulated by a piece of electrical spaghetti. Every one.

So I adopted that technique in my Sierra. I got a length of small-diameter spaghetti and put a roughly one-third inch long piece on each wire. The problem with Japanese transistor style components is that they can short together very easily. All you need to do is mis-handle your circuit board, and you can bend over a resistor so that its lead touches its neighbor.

If you have not built your Cascade yet, you might consider adding that insulating spaghetti.

The manual is plastic edge bound, like the Sierra. It is organized in build-a-module, test-a-module form, which is really great! When you follow that incremental scheme, you will have pretty high confidence when the last component is soldered, that the rig will work.

There were some minor corrections and Doug Hendricks issued an errata sheet, which arrived just in time. The errata sheet included Cascade Mod #1, by Dave Meacham, which I proceeded to incorporate fully, and I recommend. I got 9 watts out on 75 meters, and 5 watts out on 20. I measured the input current drain using a current probe and a scope, and it was just as predicted in the literature.

When I was building the audio amplifier stage, I thought that it was excessively noisy, sort of frying eggs hiss noise, so I spent about one evening chasing bad components in what I eventually concluded was inherent noise due to the very high gain in the audio chain. After I changed R25 to 22 ohms as reported in Cascade Mod #1, and completed the rest of the receiver, the noise didn't seem so excessive. The rig is certainly eminently usable in its present form, but I may

assign myself a project this winter to lower the noise a tad. But probably, you can hear many more stations than you can work so that it really does not matter much. I'm a perfectionist, thats all

Bottom line is, another wonderful kit from Norcal

Best 72's

Ed Burke, KI7KW

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: bobhigh@primenet.com (Bob Hightower)
Subject: [4497] New List?
Message-ID: <199510200330.UAA28317@usr3.primenet.com>

While I do enjoy reading about the fox hunts, and about the various kits out there, it is getting to be a bit repetitious. What about a fox-1 for reports of who did and who didn't and who didn't hear? Perhaps also one for those who have successfully completed a kit, as I believe we have heard from a great majority of those who have ordered them from just about any source.

I'm not complaining personally, but from some of the comments and from some of the notes about fellows dropping off due to the large volume of message traffic, something like this might help keep the qrp-1 population up and on line with more meaningful messages.

Flame suit on!

73,

Bob KI7MN NorCAL 1228, qrp-ARCI 8918

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: PB13128@deere.com
Subject: [4491] NOTE 10/19/95 20:33:28
Message-ID: <DACDXX21.PB13128.682933200095292FDACDXX21@TCP30.DX.DEERE.COM>

Subject: VHF QRP

Note: following comments are all directed to SSB and CW weak signal operations not FM.

I'll second WB8ZJI, Paul's comments. sort of..... First of all define the QRP power level on VHF. Both the ARRL and CQ VHF contest rules

say anything below 10 watts is QRP. QRP ARCI contests only allow contacts on the 160 through 6 meter bands leaving out the rest of the VHF bands. Since I have never worked an ARCI member during an ARCI contest on 6 meters I stick with the ARRL and CQ definition. That means that there are a lot of rigs available out of the box that can be considered QRP.

Day to day QRP operation on the VHF bands will not be very rewarding. 6 meters may be the exception. A lot can be worked with low power on 6 meters if and when it opens. And DX is possible. I have worked G's from the Black Hole with 8 watts on 6 meters. But not with a piece of wire for an antenna.

If you really want to play QRP on VHF, do it during one of the contests.

There will be people out there to work and it can be fun. Check the upcoming June VHF contest results in QST and read the comments from the mountain toppers and QRPer's. Might give you some ideas.

There is one big exception to all of the above information. On the higher VHF bands 2304 and above in particular, milliwatt power and under 5 watt power levels are very common. But then DX might only be considered across town.

Flames should be directed to me directly at pb13128@deere.com !!

TTFN

Pete, NN9K (VK4CWZ, OK8ECZ)

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: "N100Q Tom R. @ MR01 20-Oct-1995 0953" <randolph@est.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [4522] Optoelectronics freq. counter mod, coming soon!
Message-ID: <9510201402.AA13171@us4rnc.pko.dec.com>

QRPers,

There's some demand for my Opto 1200H mod, so I'm going to post it here. Please stand by while I get my stuff together (read: I forgot to bring the documentation this morning!).

The executive summary is: these counters count up to 1200 MHz, but only go down as far as 100 Hz, which isn't really enough resolution for a lot of ham radio work. The mod gets it counting down to 10 Hz resolution by sacrificing the GHz digit and count time. You can still use the counter at 1 GHz by switching to fast range, if you need to.

-Tom R. N100Q randolph@est.enet.dec.com

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: PArland@aol.com
Subject: [4499] QRP on VHF
Message-ID: <951020013414_49368549@mail04.mail.aol.com>

I just gotta add my two cents worth...

I agree with Paul.

I ran QRP on V/UHF using a Yaesu FT-726R tri-band multimode rig for over 2 years. My antennas consisted of a 12 element K1F0 for 1 meters and a 25 element K1F0 for 432. These were about 45 feet in the air on a mast with rotor.

Using a peak reading wattmeter, I would carefully set my power output to 10 watts PEP on SSB and 5 watts on CW.

There was a definite radius at about 55 miles that I could not work beyond. Adding an 80 watt linear (boo....hiss!) extended my range to about 135 miles. Beyond that there was nothing I could do, unless we had "lift conditions" on 2 meters.

Working QRP on V/UHF is extremely tedious and VERY frustrating. The local ham club (which mounts a major effort in the ARRL V/UHF contests each year) thought I was nuts (they should talk to my therapist!). Took a lot of heat from these dudes....made for some bad feelings on both sides of the fence....these guys used 80 watt linears as drivers for their BIG linears!

Not only will fooling around with all those really short wavelengths make you sterile, it'll make you crazy! (For proof of this, I'll send you some pix of the local club members!...HI!)

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: "John F. Jarvis" <jffj@pacer1.usca.sc.edu>
Subject: [4471] QRP+ review
Message-ID: <199510191552.LAA19899@pacer1.usca.sc.edu>

John Jarvis, KE2WB

>>>>>>>NOT that I'll ever operate QRP SSB (sic)<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<

From qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)

Subject: [4493] QST es SS

Message-ID: <199510200153.BAA17444@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

On the way home from work I stopped at Tucker Electronics to pick up the November QST that the US Postal "Service" has seen fit to not deliver along with QQ.

Articles I think may be of interest to this group:

1. "A Small High-Performance CW Transceiver" by Rick Campbell, KK7B. Already brought up here in the past week.
2. "South Texas Stealth Sweepstakes" by Paul Schaffenberg, KB8N. Pay attention to page 52 for the FAQ.
3. Page 70 Radio Tips: Correct CW Procedures
Correct except for the last bold line!! (what is missing?
hint: see my signature) :-)
4. Page 102. First letter.
5. Page 121. Zuni Looper photo. Without being a ham in CA, how many of the guys in the photo do you know? Dont' post to the group, please. Spoils the fun. How many of the rigs on the table can you name? If you get more than 80% Then you are in serious trouble. Professional help may be required. :-)

The results of FD makes a reading of who's who. Look at 1B-2 Op Battery..... 2B-2 Op Battery.... and others.

6. 40 pages or so for MFJ catalog.
7. OK, the ARRL has the SS forms online. Send email to info@arrl.org with no subject. In body put the following lines:

```
help
send novss.frm
quit
```

8. The Dayton server is going great guns with Preston Douglas starting things off with a bang!!
If you are going to Dayton, then send email to
LISTSERV@LEHIGH.EDU, in body put

SUBSCRIBE DAYTON-L your-name your-call

like

SUBSCRIBE DAYTON-L Chuck Adams K5FO

Someone on the list needs a roommate, female only, to room with another female. Split the \$70/night.

FYI

dit dit (answer to 3)

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: frank <yorks@frank>
Subject: [4501] Rig Prices
Message-ID: <t6SJmAAgkShwEwWR@frank>

In message <9509188140.AA814035206@smtpgw.windata.com>, Harry Chase <Harry_Chase@smtpgw.windata.com> writes
>The thread about the \$1500 QRP-Plus is a reminder that its not as
>convenient to get equipment in many countries as it is in the US.
> A few years ago I was in Ecuador doing work for HCJB (the
>shortwave station). There was a 100% import duty on automobiles !!
>When anyone needed a car they tried to buy it used or at least buy one
>used from someone they knew in the US, and then have it shipped; so
>the valuation was less than a new one...
> With electronic components the big problem was lead time -- Many
>semiconductor parts we can get from local distributors in the US in a
>week, took 1 to 4 months to get there - and with the vagaries of
>international mailing, some never made it at all. For small items
>they had a routine "procedure" that whenever anyone was traveling
>between there and the US, they filled up a suitcase with whatever was
>needed for the station when he went back. When I had made my travel
>arrangements several of the engineers there called me up on the phone
>a week or so before I went with a long list of "what to bring!!"
>
>
>Harry
>WA1VVH
>

>

Ok Harry, thanks for the reply. Of course I endorse your thoughts I also think however, that a lot of people here are making mega bucks from us who would like to purchase US made gear.

Best 73s

--

Frank G3YCC G QRP Club 042

Email: frank@yorks.demon.co.uk

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995

From: James Lyons <jlyons@CAM.ORG>

Subject: [4502] Sale

Message-ID: <199510201048.GAA23638@Ocean.CAM.ORG>

I'd like to find a good home for each of the following. Prices include shipping.

TEN-TEC TX-1 (a classic of great historic value) \$20.00

NorCal 40 (NOT A) mini-kit. NEW.

Includes PC board, case, varactor and manual. \$25.00

MFJ 9040 with A/F filter, no keyer, documentation. \$125.00

Mizuho MX-14S (20 meter CW/SSB HT)

Includes soft case, whip antenna, speaker/mike,
Mizuho power supply (runs off 12V) and xtals for
14.000 - 14.250 (5 xtals). Nicads are in perfect
condition. Documentation included.

It worked 9L the other day on SSB! (on tribander) \$250.00

All are clean and in perfect working condition ... guaranteed against DOA.

All prices US\$ and shipping by UPS surface for the larger items.

Jim Lyons, VE2KN jlyons@cam.org

P.S. I'm keeping my Sierra as my main QRP rig!

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995

From: NYOUNG@nova.wright.edu

Subject: [4523] Smaller, dollars & contests et al.

Message-ID: <01HWNQRBPHYA8Y5C1W@nova.wright.edu>

I must be an ol' fuddy-duddy about language 'cause every time I hear someone say "My number is twenty-seven thousand, three-hundred twenty-nine dollars and ninety-eight cents" I cringe. It just reminds me of two things: (1) I actually do have a Ten-Ten Number, and (2) the passing of numbers as monetary units sounds an awful lot like the HFX number tossers what used to (and probably still do) inhabit that section of the rf spectrum between 27.455 and 29.7 MHz. You've heard 'em, ain'tcha good buddy four-a-tory-roger?

And I know about that HFX CB-SSB-bootleg-self-licensed-paranoiac-radio nonsense 'cause I have an HFX number too. Actually, I think I collected six of 'em before I ran out of accents and ways to make my signal sound like it was coming out of a salvaged Fender amp reverb unit. One I got as the erudite "Roger, old man, fine-business, sir..." sort of voice. The next couple were various self-imagined "down-home" twangs and one was a Mexican, I think. And then I started assigning my own numbers. Like I was some kind of ad-hoc radio government in exile kind of thing.

HFX thirty-nine dollars and forty-five cents, old man roger sir over.

I mean, after all, breaking numbers up into "money" doesn't make 'em any more easily transmitted. It just adds some stuff that makes the speaker (or number passer) feel like he's more easily understood. A clear, slow and deliberate delivery will do just the same thing. It's the difference between "fitty" and "fifty" or "three niner one zero zero" and "thutty-nayin dahllahs ayun no sense" kind of deal. Or was that "three-hunnad and nayindy dahllahs ayun no sense"? Maybe. See, I can't even do it if I try. So I don't.

Besides, it reminds me too much of "How-boutcha Fish Face? Howbout thayut Fiyish-Fayuss, wuyun tayimm, mom-bayick." Which reminds me of all the trouble that foreign students must have when they transfer from an Ohio university to someplace in the middle of Mississippi. You know: Missy Hippy. Been thar, ayin'tcha, bwah?

So I'll see you on ten. But you won't hear me talking about money. And if I can find my Ten-Ten number, I'll give it to you. But it might be in Uighur (ObLD [Obligatory Linguistic Discussion]: Very interesting language, Uighur. Almost works like Turkish. Which for me makes life easier... minimal vowel harmony and lots of cognates...). Yakhshi musiz! Ten-teninghisapim tu"ma"nottuzsa"kkizto"tyu"zya"tmizu"ch-obdan?

73

Nils

WB8IJN &c

ObQRP: I'm still messing around with milliwatt levels on HF. Which makes me wonder how well it'll work when the bands are back. Certainly for

the 10-10 context/whatever, it will be interesting to see what nominally increased band occupancy does for the ionosphere, eh? Now all I have to do is remember to be there on the right weekend with the right antoonas. After all, I dug the 3-element parts out of the weed pile this week. And Larry wants to borrow my book of Borges for a class project. Hmmm... Essa"la"a"m "aleyku"m.

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [4484] SS
Message-ID: <199510192203.WAA16912@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

Anyone thinking of entering the SS, Nov 4th weekend, let me know if you need some forms.

Exchange will be

NR PREC CALL CK SEC

so from me, if you are my first contact:

1 Q K5FO 57 NTX

Now I realize that a majority of you are not contestors. No problem. But two things that a contest like SS will do for you as a casual op.

1. It puts a lot of people and I mean a LOT of people on the air for the weekend. So if you are looking for a state for WAS this is the contest to end all contests for doing it. It'll be a good test of your receiver selectivity and sensitivity also.
2. Just watch code speeds as the weekend progresses. You'll see people that start out at 20 wpm ending up at 28-30 or more. Guaranteed, if you work the whole weekend, to gain at least 8wpm.

There is a QRP class, i.e. the Q class. See the QST writeup for all the details. I know that AA2U, K8CQA, and few others will be in there fighting it out.

One other thing that will just scare the heck outta you if you wait a while before jumping into the waters. You send a NR 1 and you'll get back some number like 500, 600, or even 800 late in the first day. Don't worry. It's a big gun running QRO big time with an antenna farm that costs more than your house. Most likely. :-) They won't make fun of you and won't even think twice about it other they did the same thing a long time ago. Relax, you don't owe them any money.

Some people like to work or get on the last day, 'cuz a lot of the whimps have dropped out, i.e. people that weren't in serious big time, and most likely stations have just worked everyone else and will work anyone just for another point. And if you are in rare sections like RI,YU/NWT,MB,AK,PR,VI, and how knows what may be rare this year, you'll be pounced on like mouse surrounded by cats. Don't be afraid 'cuz you are running low power. These dudes have good receivers, good antennas, and will hear a sneeze in a rainforest 10 miles away.

If the station is going at 30+ wpm, listen to a couple of exchanges the pounce on 'em. Go at your speed. They are stupid if they don't work you just because of your speed. You are points to them and you may be the big one.

OK, you get the picture or at least a part of it.

So, plan on getting on 30M that weekend if you want to operate and don't want to fight the crowds. There is a slow speed segment too, but I haven't seen QST yet to list the freqs here.

dit dit es gl

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: Erik Werner <werner@cadman.cit.buffalo.edu>
Subject: [4511] UNSUBSCRIBE
Message-ID: <199510201228.IAA15291@cadman.cit.buffalo.edu>

unsubscribe Erik Werner werner@cadman.cit.buffalo.edu

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: Dale Hall <102603.30@compuserve.com>
Subject: [4496] Users International Radio Club
Message-ID: <951020024755_102603.30_HHU35-1@CompuServe.COM>

I need information about the Users International Radio Club. I need to get the person's name and call who is in charge of it. It was based in Pt St Lucie, FL. A phone number would be great. This info is important.

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: Cosmo224@aol.com
Subject: [4490] VHF & up qrp
Message-ID: <951019211955_49147333@mail06.mail.aol.com>

Greetings all

Qrp and VHF operation are a very nice match - especially as one goes up in frequency.
Aside from hurling thunderbolts during the June VHF contest, I have made some pretty good dx contacts on 2m with low power. As in most cases, its getting the qrp level signal to a good gain antenna with quality feedline. Nothing new here...
As you get up past 1 ghz, unless you are running a TWT or a solid state 'brick', you are dealing with power in terms of milliwatts. The low power is then aided with a dish with a gain of 25 to 30 db. Thats alot of ERP!

I am amazed that some of the kit manufacturers have not come out with a quality 2m or 432 qrp type rig that is also useable as a IF for microwave transverters. The closest I have seen is the R2/T2 setup. Microwave operation is really gaining popularity and most of us have to resort to padding down or modifying a commercial rig to drive the transverter. I have to put 40db worth of power attenuators between my TS790 and my 5ghz station. It would be really nice to have an affordable qrp class

V/UHF
rig that is also transverter ready.

73 de AA9IL
Mike Kana
3.4 ghz - 10mw (6 watts when I get my TD2 Western Electric amp running...)
5.7 ghz- 3 watts
10 ghz 100mw.

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: Bensondj@aol.com
Subject: [4488] VHF kits
Message-ID: <951019210903_128203383@mail06.mail.aol.com>

On 10/19, Harry_Chase@smtpgwy.windata.com (Harry Chase) wrote:

>>Speaking of VHF qrp, does anyone make/is anyone considering making-
>>a VHF qrp kit radio that'll do SSB/CW??? It would probably cost
>>more, but when you look at the prices the newer Japanese "allmode"
>>vhf products are running now, there may be an opportunity here.
>> OHR, NORCAL, et al., those who have developed SSB/CW kit designs
>>to a fine art -- are you listening????
>>Harry

We're listening! I wasn't too surprised to see the new MFJ offering- they
also spotted a hole in the market.

73- Dave Benson, NN1G

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: "W. Daniel, 9V1ZV" <daniel@pandora.lugs.po.my>
Subject: [4506] VHF QRP freak condx
Message-ID: <30875ace.pandora@pandora.lugs.po.my>

Hi,

I thought I'd mention this. Sometime last year when I was fooling around
with my IC-22A 2M rig in the evening, the bands suddenly opened up and I
could hear all kinds of activity on 145.500. This was very unusual because
2M is usually dead in 9V-land. In any case I started calling CQ at 5W just
to see what happened. All of a sudden a VU-station answered stating QTH as
Bombay (I am in Singapore, go look at the map!). It was just a few seconds

before the bands were dead quiet again. Unfortunately I did not get his full call. It was most incredible, and to this day I am still not sure what happened. I was using a gain vertical mounted on the roof, a pretty good location actually. Anyone ever experienced anything like this? Maybe tropo-ducting or Sporadic-E?

73,72 de 9V1ZV Daniel

--

Daniel Wee | daniel@pandora.lugs.po.my
9V1ZV | daniel.wee@f516.n600.z6.fidonet.org

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: "Lau, Zack, KH6CP" <zlau@arrl.org>
Subject: [4520] VHF+ QRP
Message-ID: <3087AF01@arrl.org>

Running QRP on VHF and higher bands often allows you better access to spots. For instance, I actually share Mt Equinox during the June and September contests with two limited multi-op stations--W1TKZ and WB1GQR, and have done quite well--last September's claimed score was over 100 k pts (top VT single op score??)

Two of the best spots in the Northeast, Slide Mountain and Grand Manadnock, have no roads to the top--an excellent opportunity for someone willing to hike up with QRP gear. Both trails are a bit much to carry QRO gear.

KH6CP/1's "not exactly LOS DX work"

Band Grids Best DX in KM

903	22	> 613	(9 watts)	
1296	27	> 613	(9 watts)	VUCC
2304	13	526	2 watts	VUCC
3456	11	352	5 watts	VUCC+endorsement
5760	7	352	1.5 watts	VUCC

10GHz 13 549 0.6 watts VUCC+endorsement
I know of 4 more LOS grids I could work on 10 GHz!

Maybe the QRP ARCI ought to supplement the ARRL awards program with easier VUCC levels, just as it does with the WAS Award. How about 25 grids for 6M through 70 cm and 10 grids for 903/1296?

Microwave DX is a good way to get people into CW operation--it really helps when you start exploring the troposcatter limits of your station.

Zack KH6CP/1 zlau@arrl.org

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: Harry_Chase@smtpgw.windata.com (Harry Chase)
Subject: [4524] VHF+ QRP
Message-ID: <9509208142.AA814208520@smtpgw.windata.com>

Most ham microwave operation, unless one is well endowed with time and money, is QRP by necessity!! How many are running a full gallon on 10GHz??!!

Harry
WA1VVH

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: km@PACT.ORG.PE (Kris Merschrod)
Subject: [4487] Yes I was at the party
Message-ID: <m0t64qZ-000AzEC@rcp.net.pe>

Friends,

The ARCI started off very nicely within minutes Byron (WA8LCZ) and I had made our mutual first contact on 20mtrs, then N4BP came too fast for my slow ear and missed the chance for a confirmed QSO RST etc.

Randy (YS1ZRB) came in QRP too. AI1I (Also too fast) missed being "confirmed." Well, after that successful first hour I decided to wait for 40 meters to open... To make a long story short, I never did make a 2 way QRP after those, but it was fun. There really was a QRP buzz heard down here on both 20 & 40.

Next time I'll do much better!

Kris
OA4\KA20IG\QRP (perhaps the long call with two slashes in it had something to do with the lack of response -- thank goodness for the CMOS II)

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: gcouger@jsun.agen.okstate.edu (Gordon Couger)
Subject: [4472] Re: 2 meter QRP
Message-ID: <9510191559.AA01214@jsun.agen.okstate.edu>

I have the makings of a 2 meter qrp rig. A hamtronics 2 to 20 meter receive converter and hamtronics 2 meter transmitter strip one with xtals and one with out.

If any one is interested I would sell or swap them.

Gordon AB5DG
Gordon Couger - Biosystems & Ag Engineering Oklahoma State Univ.
114 Ag Hall, Stillwater, OK 74078
Home 624 Cheyenne, Stillwater, OK 74075
gcouger@master.ceat.okstate.edu 405-624-2855 evenings 405 744 8392 work
I do not speak for my employer

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: Craig LaBarge <74740.3166@compuserve.com>
Subject: [4480] Re: 30m QRP-L contest
Message-ID: <951019205036_74740.3166_EHB106-2@CompuServe.COM>

Adam, N3RCS, wrote:

>Do you think it would be acceptable if we had a sort of QRP-L contest
>on 30? Maybe work 25 of us in a 24 hr period?
>
>Something just to promote QRP activity on 30. To work the QRP-Lers,
>you must be running 5w or less.
>
>What do you guys think?

As others have pointed out, contests are a no-no up there. An informal QRP-L net on 30m would be fun, though.

73, Craig WB3GCK

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995

From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [4475] Re: Chuck and UTC
Message-ID: <199510191629.QAA14849@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Larry,

It is not problem. I try to be extra careful with the logbook.
It is an old habit and a hard one to die. Glad WE found the
problem together.

Is there anyone on this list that does not keep a log book?
Just curious in TX.

I hear of people who don't do this and I wonder not being able
to look back and remember QSOs that happened over a year or more
does to one?

Apology was not needed but I appreciate it. You had me worried
as I went back to the date in question and I had received other
QSL cards from the date and they didn't change it.

p.s. no need to send me another card. it's good in my book.

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: Frank G3YCC <yorks@frank>
Subject: [4500] Re: Chuck and UTC
Message-ID: <7LTbjEAFmohwEw3D@frank>

In message <199510191629.QAA14849@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>, chuck adams
<adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com> writes

>Larry,

>

>It is not problem. I try to be extra careful with the logbook.

>It is an old habit and a hard one to die. Glad WE found the

>problem together.

>

>Is there anyone on this list that does not keep a log book?

>Just curious in TX.

>

>I hear of people who don't do this and I wonder not being able

>to look back and remember QSOs that happened over a year or more

>does to one?

>

>Apology was not needed but I appreciate it. You had me worried
>as I went back to the date in question and I had received other
>QSL cards from the date and they didn't change it.

>

>p.s. no need to send me another card. it's good in my book.

>

>dit dit

>--

>Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com

>Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

>

Hi! Don't you guys have to keep a log by regulations? Often wish we
didn't have to, can be a chore. Can't be bothered with PC logging, takes
too long for me! Interestingly CB'ers don't keep logs here - we do...
not that there is any similarity though.

Also we can't, by regulations, use /QRP - it's not allowed! The / is
reserved for /M /P etc., so we have to send e.g G3YCC <space> QRP!

Have fun!

--

Frank G3YCC (G QRP 042)

Email: frank@yorks.demon.co.uk

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995

From: Craig LaBarge <74740.3166@compuserve.com>

Subject: [4481] Re: keyer paddles

Message-ID: <951019205030_74740.3166_EHB106-1@CompuServe.COM>

John, KC2DU, wrote:

>Has anyone tried out the Kitano dual paddle (vertical) keyer
>that I saw in a new product announcement in QST (aug. 95 p.57)?
>Just wondering what the is the net-wisdom on this one.

I haven't used the Kitano paddles, but I did homebrew a similar contraption a
while back. After encountering problems with paddles sliding around during the
NorCal Spring QRP to the Field event, I figured that two vertical "paddles"
would be much more stable. I built them using a small plywood base (about the
size of a credit card), two strips of thin fiberglass, and some assorted nuts
and bolts and stuff from the junk box.

They worked great and stayed perfectly still in use. Being accustomed to
regular paddles, this new style of keying took a little getting used (but not
as much as you would think). I used them in the field a few times with good
results.

Somewhere (I think it might have been in a Dave Ingram article), I heard this type of key referred to as a "cricket." Something to do with a small bug, maybe?

73, Craig WB3GCK (Goin' Crazy Keyin')
~ ~ ~

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: cebik@UTKVX.UTCC.UTK.EDU
Subject: [4507] Re: keyer paddles
Message-ID: <Pine.PMDF.3.91.951020071107.543208064F-100000@utkvx.utk.edu>

While building a keyer version of the opto-electronic infrared key ("Son of IROESK"), I built two different styles: vertical paddles for those used to regular paddles and a two-finger version on the flat. The latter was simpler, since it required only one piece of oak with cutouts, while the vertical model required an extra sandwich atop the wood base. The flat version confused me for a while, since I seemed to alternate between using the forefinger and thumb and using the first 2 fingers. I eventually settled down to using the finger-thumb combo, but have reports of others preferring just 2 fingers. It may depend simply on hand comfort at the operating position. With such paddles, also try reversing the dit-dah leads as you try to settle on the most comfortable way to make code. There is nothing fixed in stone in this arena--except that if you use a nonstandard fingering scheme, you will have to carry your own paddles to field day and similar group events. Also give yourself plenty of practice time (off-air?) to settle into a comfortable keying pattern. I sent myself an entire chapter of the ARRL Handbook before going on the air with the system--made a good review of some technical material while getting a good feel for the paddle.

-73-
LB, W4RNL

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: [4483] RE: keyer paddles name trivia: Cricket
Message-ID: <n1398000912.691111@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>

A "cricket" is a small noisemaker that consists of a spring steel lever that operates in a steel shell, often stamped and painted to resemble a cricket.

It can sit on a table and be squeezed by pressure on top, or held in the hand, (concealed) to make an annoying Halloween time noise, somewhat like a cricket insect sound. Thus the small key probably got its name from this mechanism. Happy Halloween!
Stuart K5KVH

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: lhalliday@creo.bc.ca
Subject: [4470] Re: mini ckt lab sbl-1
Message-ID: <9509198141.AA814117059@mail.creo.bc.ca>

Charles writes of the Rock Bending receiver in QST and a key part:

> One of the components was a Mini Circuits Lab SBL-1. I have tried
> three local vendors, and none of them have this component. Does
> anybody have any suggestions? Maybe a catalog from Mini Circuits
> Labs?

Most of the ham-oriented parts suppliers carry SBL-1s (anybody have recent information on price/availability?). Or you can buy them directly from Mini-Circuits, who take plastic over the phone, ship promptly, and seem happy to waive their \$50 minimum order for hams. They have all kinds of seriously cool technical information available more-or-less for the asking. I've dealt with them myself, but I was looking for MMICs and S-band mixers...

You will find phone numbers in all the usual sources (ARRL Handbook, Brooklyn information, etc.).

Why not send feelers out to local hams and make a group purchase? Letting it be known that you have some MMICs to give away because you needed 2 for a project but Mini-Circuits sell them in cards of 10 is an easy way to become **very** popular... :-)

Laura Halliday VE7LDH	"C'est une femme mutine, assez
lhalliday@creo.bc.ca	elegante, grave et legere, ayant
ve7ldh@amsat.org	le sens du confort et du plaisir
	en tout." - C. Deneuve

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: cebik@UTKVBX.UTCC.UTK.EDU
Subject: [4505] Re: Mini-Circuits

Message-ID: <Pine.PMDF.3.91.951020070505.543208064E-100000@utkvx.utk.edu>

With all the nice things being said about Mini-Circuits and their mixers and MMICs, I wonder if the next generation of QRP kits will be 602-less, using passive mixers and gain blocks for almost everything except oscillators. The SBL Special??? There are already some fine rigs using this technology--see some English rigs, and NN1G uses one in his latest for 20 meters. The question in my mind is how far this avenue of technology can be driven with good results. Also, what will be the toroid-to-wind ratio relative to current designs of similar capabilities?

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: rgobrick@public.compusult.nf.ca (Robert J. Gobrick)
Subject: [4517] Re: Mini-Circuits
Message-ID: <199510201323.KAA03947@public.compusult.nf.ca>

LB,

And it needs to be mentioned that Oak Hills Research has been using the SBL's in their Spirit, Classic and QuadBander line - along with a small front end rf preamp - makes for a nice front end. Zack at ARRL also had a great write-up about a high performance 40 meter xcvr a while back in QEX using the Mini-Circuit front end. The New England QRP guys were building these up but I never heard if they actually came up with a printed circuit board (Zack's a "ugly" constructor sort of guy for HF work - not so with his UHF stuff). I'm a fan of the passive mixers all the way back to the days of the Atlas 210X.

Yes let's here it for some new and better front end designs for QRP rigs as replacement for the NE-602.

Tahh Dahh 73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

>With all the nice things being said about Mini-Circuits and their mixers
>and MMICs, I wonder if the next generation of QRP kits will be 602-less,
>using passive mixers and gain blocks for almost everything except
>oscillators. The SBL Special??? There are already some fine rigs using
>this technology--see some English rigs, and NN1G uses one in his latest
>for 20 meters. The question in my mind is how far this avenue of
>technology can be driven with good results. Also, what will be the
>toroid-to-wind ratio relative to current designs of similar capabilities?

>
>-73-
>LB, W4RNL
>
>
>

```
-----  
|   Bob Gobrick  VO1DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB  Newfoundland, Canada   |  
|   QRPer Galore - QRP ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP |  
|   Internet:      bgobrick@terra.nl.net.nf.ca                   |  
|                   rgobrick@public.compuserve.nf.ca             |  
|   Compuserve:    70466.1405@compuserve.com                     |  
|-----|
```

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: "Mark J. Dulcey" <mdulcey@pryder.pn.com>
Subject: [4494] Re: My Norcal "Cascade" is Working!
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951019220020.3586C-100000@pryder.pn.com>

On Thu, 19 Oct 1995 Edward=F=Burke%Eng%GPID@banyan.BV.TEK.COM wrote:

> We used to call that "Japanese transistor radio style", and I remembered that we
> had an old transistor radio using that technique around the house. I also
> remembered something else about that radio; when the resistors were
> vertically installed by the manufacturer, the vertical leads were insulated by a
> piece of electrical spaghetti. Every one.
>
> So I adopted that technique in my Sierra. I got a length of small-diameter
> spaghetti and put a roughly one-third inch long piece on each wire. The problem
> with Japanese transistor style components is that they can short together very
> easily. All you need to do is mis-handle your circuit board, and you can bend
> over a resistor so that its lead touches its neighbor.
>
> If you have not built your Cascade yet, you might consider adding that
> insulating spaghetti.

Although this couldn't hurt, it probably isn't as necessary in most ham
radio kits as it was in the transistor radios; the component density is
not nearly as high. Those transistor radios typically crammed the parts
in as tightly as they would go.

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995

From: adam@libertynet.org (Adam O'Donnell)
Subject: [4498] Re: New List?
Message-ID: <199510200429.AAA19963@philadelphia.libertynet.org>

>Flame suit on!
>73,
>Bob KI7MN NorCAL 1228, qrp-ARCI 8918

No flames here, but I must say that the amount of e-mail I receive isn't excessive.
If I don't want to read one of the 78 messages I get from the list each day, them
I just hit the D key. I'm left with 2 or 3 messages a day from the list worth reading.

72

Adam O'Donnell, N3RCS
Amsat: N3RCS@AMSAT.ORG
Internet: ADAM@LIBERTYNET.ORG

"I want to know how God created this world. I am not interested in this or that phenomenon. I want to know His thoughts, the rest are details."
-- Albert Einstein

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: tbowman@leba.net
Subject: [4504] Re: New List?
Message-ID: <199510201105.HAA12378@fig.leba.net>

>While I do enjoy reading about the fox hunts, and about the various kits out
>there, it is getting to be a bit repetitious. What about a fox-1 for reports
>of who did and who didn't and who didn't hear? Perhaps also one for those
>who have successfully completed a kit, as I believe we have heard from a
great
>majority of those who have ordered them from just about any source....

Bob KI7MN NorCAL 1228, qrp-ARCI 8918
<---- End Included Message ---->

I've subscribed to this list for over a year. The list is the first thing I read when I log on because the content is just right, a pleasant mix of everything from kit reviews, to tech tips, to personal vignettes.

This is a lot more fun to read than my computer assisted reporting and

photog lists. That's the stuff my job is made of so I read those messages, too.

Over past months I've noticed some readers tried to limit just about every topic discussed here.

I'm not into fox hunts so I spike those messages. But I don't want those messages eliminated from this list because some of the people who post fox information ALSO post delightful stories I couldn't find elsewhere.

If anything, I'd encourage more stories by people like Chuck and Mike C. because they add flavor to this list.

If parts of the list are a problem, one click of my mouse deletes the message. Kind of like the way I feel some mornings when I use the on-off switch on my 2-meter rig and most nights in front of the TV - except when NYPD-Blue is back on....

Keep the variety coming and hold the list together. Tom, WA3REY

From qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995

From: prvalko <prvalko@Oakland.edu>

Subject: [4509] Re: New List?

Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.951020073854.27689A-100000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

On Thu, 19 Oct 1995, Bob Hightower wrote:

> While I do enjoy reading about the fox hunts, and about the various kits out
> there, it is getting to be a bit repetitious. What about a fox-l for reports
> of who did and who didn't and who didn't hear? Perhaps also one for those
> who have successfully completed a kit, as I believe we have heard from a
> great majority of those who have ordered them from just about any source.

<snip!> then Bob said...

> Flame suit on!

None required, OM. I think you (we) all need to step back and ponder just what *IS* the QRP-L for anyhow??? My vote would be to report QRP operating events (foxhunts, general QSO's, creative writing {wink}) and problems (kits, blown 2N7000s, free 2SC799s).

I smile a bit at the above word, "vote" as this list is not democratic and in fact is more anarchy than anything else.

There ALSO is the very rewarding (to me) practice that many are including an Obligatory QRP (ObQRP) message at the end of post that have absolutely NOTHING to do with QRP. Just the THOUGHT that at the bottom of some boring message regarding switching power supplies, there might be a jewel of an ObQRP paragraph keeps me hitting the space key instead of the D

(delete).

vy 73! =paul= wb8zjl

ObQRP : don'tcha know :-) I still have not replaced the FET (OPPS!!! ObFET!!!) in the KC-1 (Fercryinoutloud! ObKit!) in my NorCal40A+ (Jeez!!! ObKit.Norcal.40.A.+) and probably won't until I take it to Dayton (CRIMINY!!! ObDayton-1!!!).

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: af852@rgfn.epcc.Edu (William R Colbert)
Subject: [4515] Re: New List?
Message-ID: <9510201320.AA13922@rgfn.epcc.Edu>

I treat the list as a daily QRP magazine that the post office can't delay!! (still no QQ) and feel as most do here that if there is an inappropriate item or one of no interest - skip past it or delete it. As a LAST resort one could unsubscribe but that is akin to smashing the picture tube on the TV because you don't like the program. Really, there is more than enough on the list to keep most interested - keep those opinions going? 72/73 Ray, W5XE

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: "MIKE HERR" <mike_herr@imdgw.chinalake.navy.mil>
Subject: [4474] Re: qrp vhf
Message-ID: <n1398028034.42541@imdgw.chinalake.navy.mil>

Hi Gang,

Vhf and Qrp go together naturally. I don't know why we haven't seen more projects for 6 and 2 meters. There really is no reason why the techniques we have used in the past, ie direct conversion receivers and cw transmitters, cannot be used on 6 and 2. I've built up a 2 meter cw transmitter using a 10 meter twofer and a much modified hamtronics 10 to 2 transverter. Lately I've been fooling around with a simple vxo 2 meter transmitter with good results, I just need to get the other projects out of the way so I can finish it. Converters are easy to build and a Neophyte can make a base receiver. Heck, no reason not to use a DC receiver at 50 or 144 mcs. Anyone else out there experimenting or such with vhf es qrp?

72

Mike WA6ARA

ps - KI6SN, Richard, u been getting the E-mail from me?

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: af852@rgfn.epcc.Edu (William R Colbert)
Subject: [4512] Re: QST es SS
Message-ID: <9510201253.AA11278@rgfn.epcc.Edu>

Re Chuck's message about the QST articles - I heard Paul, KB8N on 40 during this past contest weekend - 7040 +- and at the time (noon local) he was the loudest signal, even louder than the other PA contenders. Whatever his stealth antenna system is - it really works.
Ray, W5XE, El Paso

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)
Subject: [4476] Re: SPC QRP-40 / OHR Explorer - Low Audio Output Level
Message-ID: <v02130505acac3ce2c770@[199.170.106.28]>

Hi Stephen,

> Wayne,
>
> I recently finished reading the "Review of Three Popular QRP Kits" on
> pages 40 and 41 of the July 1995 issue of the "QRP Quarterly." The
> author, Preston Douglas, WJ2V, mentions that the audio output level
> from the "Explorer" (by Oak Hills Research) is inadequate to drive a
> speaker, but that the "NW80/20" (by Dan's Small Parts) produces "ear
> splitting" speaker volume....
>
> I have a copy of the schematic for your NorCal 40A from the March 1995
> issue of QRPP and, from reading the QRP column in the November 1995
> issue of Worldradio, it seems that Wilderness is currently at
> "revision B" which provides "a lot more receive audio." Could you
> please tell me what the rev B changes are that provide the increased
> audio?

I can't speak to the details of the other rigs you mention, but for no-I.F.-amp receivers in general here's what you have to do to get adequate speaker drive AND low signal/noise on 40m (all of these techniques are used in the '40A rev. B):

1. Use transformer coupling out of the receive mixer (+3dB).
2. Use a low frequency I.F. (4.915MHz in the '40A; +1 to +2dB vs. the usual 9MHz Cohn filter with inexpensive crystals).
3. Use balanced output from the product detector to the AF amp (+3dB).
4. Optimize the AF stage for gain at 600 to 700 Hz (+3dB); in the case of the '40A, this is accomplished with a feedback network from pin 5 to 8 (or pin 1). Refer to the LM386 data sheet.

You can't just throw A.F. channel gain (i.e., a preamp before the LM386) and expect to have a low signal to noise ratio at the speaker output. The only way to have a good S/N is to optimize earlier stages, including the receive mixer, crystal filter, and product detector.

Find a '40A rev. B and listen to it, if you get a chance, to see for yourself.

73,
Wayne

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: H Smith <hbs@crl.com>
Subject: [4468] Re: VHF Qrp
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951019071533.28299B-100000@crl5.crl.com>

On Wed, 18 Oct 1995, prvalko wrote:

> This is probably going to REALLY go against the grain, but I gotta say it.
>
> Fat, Dumb, and running QRP on VHF is no way to go through life, son.
>

Having been a VHFer in a past life, I can understand this.

I still have an IC202S, which is about 3-4 watts on 2mtrs. I have used it barefoot on many occasions to work local and tropo (ducting) contacts.

For serious stuff, I had a 500 watt amp and 21 elements at 100 feet. The amp is long gone.

There aint much CW on 2mtr and 70cm unless you are working EME

For local contacts, you are going to need a beam that is up high enough to "see" over the local obstructions. And the general rule is horizontal

polarization. You can do local SSB communications with 5 watts. You can build a 2m "Quagi" antenna out of wood and wire.

There are occasional tropospheric related openings when there are temperature inversions. This is commonly called "ducting". You will have to have a good beam, but I still think that you can use 5 watts. (From experience)

The most fun is E-Skip. I have worked many a station in the North East that was running a 14 element beam with a "brick" (70-100 watts). These openings occur mostly during the Summer. You probably wont do very well with 5 watts, however.

Now six meters is another thing.

Local six meter activity depends on your area. Some areas have 6 meter FM repeaters.

Since there are more and more HF transceivers with 6 meters, the activity on six is increasing.

During the E-Skip season (summer time), six meters gets really exciting. You can do a lot of good with 5 watts and a 3-4 element beam at 20 feet during the Eskip season. (once again, from experience). And many people use CW during these openings.

Incidentally, whereas local and tropo VHF communications typically use horizontally polarized antennas, this is not necessarily true for E-Skip communications since the signals flip around when they hit the E layer. I use a 1/4 wave whip on the car for six meters and have very good results during the E-Skip season on FM, CW and SSB.

MFJ just announced a little 6 meter rig that will do SSB at 10 watts PEP (I think) for around \$250. (once again, I think).

QRP on VHF is viable. But you will have to spend some bucks to get on 2 mters or 70 Cm. Six meters QRP is looking like a better deal every day.

CUL,

Smitty, NA5K

Henry Smith (hbs@crl.com)

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: Steve Greene <sgreene@access.digex.net>
Subject: [4514] Re: VHF Qrp
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951018154143.786A-100000@localhost>

On Wed, 18 Oct 1995, Harry Chase wrote:

> Speaking of VHF qrp, does anyone make/is anyone considering making-
> a VHF qrp kit radio that'll do SSB/CW??? It would probably cost

You can take a CW/SSB HF rig and add transverters for each band of interest. To minimize power losses in the coax, place the transverters in a weather-proof enclosure near the antennas.

More boxes of course, but the marginal cost is much less than a whole new rig.

72
Steve Greene KA1LM
sgreene@access.digex.net / ka1lm@amsat.org

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: rgobrick@public.compusult.nf.ca (Robert J. Gobrick)
Subject: [4516] Re: VHF QRP freak condx
Message-ID: <199510201324.KAA03950@public.compusult.nf.ca>

Daniel,

How have you been? - you haven't been spending all your time QRO DXing with that Icom rig have you? What kind of new projects have you been working on. Haven't heard you on the qrp-1 list in a while.

73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

>Hi,
>
> I thought I'd mention this. Sometime last year when I was fooling around
>with my IC-22A 2M rig in the evening, the bands suddenly opened up and I
>could hear all kinds of activity on 145.500. This was very unusual because
>2M is usually dead in 9V-land. In any case I started calling CQ at 5W just
>to see what happened. All of a sudden a VU-station answered stating QTH as
>Bombay (I am in Singapore, go look at the map!). It was just a few seconds
>before the bands were dead quiet again. Unfortunately I did not get his full
>call. It was most incredible, and to this day I am still not sure what
>happened. I was using a gain vertical mounted on the roof, a pretty good

>location actually. Anyone ever experienced anything like this? Maybe
>tropo-ducting or Sporadic-E?
>
>73,72 de 9V1ZV Daniel
>--
> Daniel Wee | daniel@pandora.lugs.po.my
> 9V1ZV | daniel.wee@f516.n600.z6.fidonet.org
>
>
>

Bob Gobrick	V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB	Newfoundland, Canada
QRPer	Galore - QRP	ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP
Internet:	bgobrick@terra.nl.net.nf.ca	
	rgobrick@public.compuserve.com	
Compuserve:	70466.1405@compuserve.com	

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: af852@rgfn.epcc.Edu (William R Colbert)
Subject: [4518] Re: VHF QRP freak condx
Message-ID: <9510201327.AA14690@rgfn.epcc.Edu>

Re Daniel's message about the 2 meters. Probably ducting. I remember
when in Los Angeles many years ago working from the HT
and mobile to Hawaii. Lots of fun, Ray, W5XE

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995
From: mont@netcom.com (Mont Pierce)
Subject: [4503] Re: where? (uudecode.zip)
Message-ID: <199510201058.DAA01035@netcom4.netcom.com>

>
> Where can I get uuencode et al (for ms-dos)?....
>
>
>
> Baab,N6CXB
>

I've gotten several copies off of the net, but not sure where. So,

I zipped up a freeware version and uploaded it to the qrp-l/incoming site.

72, de km6wt

--

Mont Pierce

```
+-----+
| Ham Call: KM6WT           Internet:  mont@netcom.com      |
|   bands: 80/40/20/15/10/2                                     |
|   modes: cw,ssb,fm                                           |
+-----+
```

From qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Fri Oct 20 15:47:00 1995

From: "N100Q Tom R. @ MR01 19-Oct-1995 1003" <randolph@est.ENET.dec.com>

Subject: [4467] re: ZENER

Message-ID: <9510191416.AA19311@us4rmc.pko.dec.com>

> Well there have been some interesting responses to my original post
> on this subject. I have seen the article in "QRP Classics" regarding
> the ringing that occurs at the collector of the amp.

In case anyone's interested, I looked it up, here's the references:

"QST" Oct., 1978 Original article by W7EL

"QST" Jan., 1980 Follow up by a DL callsign

"QRP Classics" book from ARRL has reprints of both, as above.

I'm actually in a good position to re-hash W7EL's computer simulation, since we use all kind of fancy commercial versions of SPICE and other simulators here at work. Maybe I'll do it, someday!

I don't think W7EL specified what program he used, but SPICE doesn't model non-linear effects, so results for a class-C amplifier are approximate at best. We have at least one simulator here that does handle non-linearities in the active components.

-Tom R. N100Q randolph@est.enet.dec.com